

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 99

By Lollar

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Frank Compere Ryburn of Millington recognizing his meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens, who during their lifetime, distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we are all proud; and

WHEREAS, Frank Compare Ryburn, one such noteworthy person, was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, originally from Arkansas, Mr. Ryburn grew up with parents who taught him the value of education at an early age; he was educated through high school in the Arkansas public school system; he then attended the University of Arkansas at Monticello and Texas Christian University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ryburn entered the United States Navy in 1942, heroically and honorably serving as a pilot and instructor during World War II; upon his release to inactive duty, he served as a Lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserves; and

WHEREAS, he spent a long, distinguished, and illustrious career in the automobile industry, presiding with acumen and alacrity over a thriving automobile dealership, Frank Ryburn Ford, Inc., and earned the respect of his colleagues and customers for the exemplary quality of his products and service; and

WHEREAS, deeply involved in his community, Frank Ryburn volunteered his time and energies to a number of civic organizations, dedicating to each his coveted, no-nonsense leadership style. He served as Executive Director of the Millington Industrial Development Board, Chairman and board member of the Memphis-Shelby County Industrial Development

Corporation, Chairman and Director of the Millington Municipal Airport Authority, Chairman of the Ford Dealer Council – Memphis District, member of the Board of Commissioners of the Millington Housing Authority, and Chairman of the Personnel Appeals Board for the City of Millington; and

WHEREAS, the Millington Industrial Development Board headquarters have been recently named the Frank C. Ryburn Memorial Building, in honor and recognition of Mr. Ryburn for his countless hours of service and dedication to establishing the Millington Business Center and recruiting several industries to the Millington area; and

WHEREAS, he also committed his singular skills to several community organizations, serving as a member of the Executive Board of Directors-Chickasaw Council for the Boy Scouts of America, member of the board of directors of the Salvation Army – Memphis Unit, member of the Sons of the American Revolution, member of the Rotary Club, and president of the Millington Lions Club; and

WHEREAS, being a distinguished World War II veteran, his vast experience was called upon while he served as president of the Memphis Council Navy League of the United States, Commander of the Military Order of World Wars – Memphis Chapter, president and member of the board of directors for the Memphis Chapter of the United Service Organization (USO), and as a member of the Executive Committee for the Military Affairs Council of the Memphis Area Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ryburn epitomized the ideal of the consummate professional and had been recognized with numerous awards of distinction; he was a recipient of the Military Outstanding Civilian Award from the Memphis Area Chamber of Commerce, was named Scouting Distinguished Citizen in 1998, was a recipient of the Silver Beaver award from the Boy Scouts of America, was named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club, was listed in *Who's Who in the South and Southwest*, and he received the Millington Man of the Year award in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ryburn was called upon for his energy and invaluable expertise in the political arena as well, serving on the staff of United States Congressman Oren Harris, Fourth

District Arkansas, while the Congressman was Chairman of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wallace was an active and devout member of Saint Anne's Episcopal Church, which he served faithfully as a Senior Warden and member of the vestry; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ryburn enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Dixie Ryburn; and

WHEREAS, he was the proud and loving father of his daughter, Salli Ryburn Smith, and his step-son, Tommy Donald; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ryburn will also be sorely missed by his grandchildren and a host of friends and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ryburn leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Frank Compere Ryburn, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Ryburn

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.